



BADGER STATE Smoke Signals



For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

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Wisconsin Amateurs Give Help During Hurricane

..another man's treasure



THE FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB in Madison held an auction on October 4. The auction was well attended, with items offered for sale ranging from radios to books to an item or two that might possibly best be used as the proverbial boat anchors. Here, auctioneer Don Buchholtz, KC9JP, works on the crowd to get the best possible bid for a recent Callbook.

— K9ZZ Photo

By Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
Section Manager, Wisconsin Section ARRL
5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221

Hurricane Gilbert pounded Caribbean vacation resorts to bits with its 175 mph winds and torrential rains in mid-September of 1988. Thousands of people fled the coastal areas, searching for the safety of inland shelter. Vacationers, hoping to get sun and rest in Jamaica, became terrified and isolated. With a low barometric pressure of 26.31 inches, Gilbert blasted its way to become the most intense storm on record in the Western Hemisphere. Fortunately, Ham Radio operators quickly pitched in to help.

While Gilbert was creating serious trouble off shore, ARRL Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator Fred Wendt, W9ZAG, in Muskego, Wisconsin was answering telephone inquiries from the public and news reporters. When Mr. Wendt's name and address appeared with a front page news story in the September 14 issue of The Milwaukee Journal, phone calls to his home really increased. "Can you find out if my relative is safe in the disaster area?" was the repeated question. Fred spent 12 to 14 hours per day coordinating inquiry and response messages for many Wisconsin residents. His volunteer work was eventually supplemented by his family members, taking their turns at handling the flow of telephone information.

W9ZAG routed traffic through the Milwaukee ARES 146.67 MHz repeater to high powered Wisconsin HF stations who checked into the National Hurricane Net on 14.325 MHz or were monitoring reports. Any transmission from the United States had to be extremely short and in strict format. W9NGT and many others assisted in coordinating traffic to and from volunteers in Wisconsin, and kept important records to avoid duplicate requests.

(Please turn to page 10)



Happy Thanksgiving! from the BSSS staff



ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF



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goodies - read and enjoy!

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EDITORIAL MATERIAL, PHOTOGRAPHS, FEATURE ARTICLES, AND EXCHANGE PAPERS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger, address above.

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The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply agreement or endorsement by Badger State Smoke Signals, or any other organization.

Swapfests and other Social Events

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1988. Hamfest Minnesota & Computer Expo. 9000 Brooklyn Blvd., No. of I-694 & Hwy. 169 (previously Cty. Rd. 18), Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. Speakers: Roy Neal, K6DUE and Will Steger. Admission: \$4.00 advance or \$5.00 day of show. Tables: \$10.00 full table or \$5.00 for a half table. Contact: Hamfest Minnesota & computer Expo, Box 5598, Hopkins, MN 55343.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1988. The KMRA SWAPFEST will be held at the Waukesha Expo Center, Forum Building, Highway J & Ft in Waukesha WI. All indoors, easy entry, no stairs, Doors open at 7 am for sellers and 8 am for the general public. Prices: \$2.50 advance, \$3.00 at the door, \$4.00

per 4-ft reserved table, and \$4.00 per 4 ft table at the door. Reservations accepted until October 15th. KMRA, 313 Hillview Circle, Waukesha, WI 53188.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1988. LATE FALL HAMFEST. At the Lake County IL, Fairgrounds, Rts. 45 & 120, Grayslake, IL. Admission \$3.00, tables \$5.00. First come first served. Contact CAP, 637 Emerald St., Mundelein, IL 60060.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1988. The Milwaukee Repeater Club is proud to sponsor the 4th annual "6.91 Friendly Fest" from 8:00am to 1:00pm (sellers admitted at 7:00am), at Serb Hall, 51st & Oklahoma Ave. The newly renovated selling halls will be located entirely on the ground floor with easy access so, rain or shine, gather up your swapfest bargains and come share our famous Milwaukee hospitality. Tickets are just \$3.00, four-foot tables for \$4.00. to save \$1.00 per ticket or table send SASE with payment to the Milwaukee Repeater Club, P.O. Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201, before November 5, 1988. Talk-in on 146.91 (The Friendly Repeater) and on 146.52. On-site Amateur Exams. Info: (414) 444-4589 (24 hr. answering machine).

JANUARY 14, 1989. West Allis RAC Midwinter Swapfest, Waukesha, WI. (see ad on last page)

MARCH 11, 1989. Fox Cities ARC Swapfest, Appleton, WI.

MARCH 19, 1989. Tri County ARC Swapfest, Jefferson, WI. (see ad on last page)

APRIL 9, 1989. Madison Area Repeater Assn. Swapfest, Madison, WI. (see ad on last page)

JULY 8, 1989. South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest, Oak Creek, WI. (see ad on last page)

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas.

Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

Club Meetings

BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
(W9YT - UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON)
Monthly while school in session - 2nd Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. - B-314, Electrical Engineering Building.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.
(STEVENS POINT)
Second Wednesday.

EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
2nd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - Parks and Recreation Bldg., Oxford and 1st Streets, Eau Claire. Hams, guests welcome. Travelers welcome on wide area club repeater K9UXP, 146.31/91.

FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MADISON WI)
First and third Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m. - Red Cross Bldg., 4860 Sheboygan Ave.

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Third Monday - 7:00 p.m. - Roosevelt Jr. High School, 318 E. Brewster St., Appleton. Info:

(414) 735-6294. Winter Banquet, January 23, 1988. Contact KA9MPP.

GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB
Second Thursday - Red Cross Bldg., corner Danz and Deckner, Green Bay.

GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Third Monday - 7:30 p.m. - Green Lake Town Hall, int. of county hwy. K and N.

KETTLE MORaine RADIO AMATEURS
Second Friday.

LAKE SHORE RPTR. ASSN.
4th Tuesday, Jan., Apr., Jul., & Oct., 7:30 p.m. Red Cross Bldg., 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS
First Wednesday - 7:00 p.m. - City Hall, 817 Franklin St., Manitowoc.
Second Wednesday - Red Cross Building, 1816 Washington St., Manitowoc.

MENOMONEE FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Last Tuesday - Doors open 7:30 p.m., meeting begins 8:00 p.m. - Security Savings and Loan, Menomonee Falls. Amateurs and guests welcome.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB
Fourth Thursday - Wauwatosa Savings and Loan, 7500 W. State St. (November on the third Thursday. No meetings in July, August and December.) Meetings begin at 7:00 pm.

OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB
Second Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. - Saukville Community Center.

QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55
For information about QCWA, contact Richard Regent, K9GDF or Mickey Dolgin, K89G. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings. (Watch BSSS for dates.) You are invited to check in the QCWA net on Sundays on 3.985 MHz. at 8:30 a.m.

QCWA - SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN CHAPTER #162
Meets third Monday monthly, 7:30 p.m., Around the Clock Restaurant, 3012 Rapids, Drive, Racine.

RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB
Second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Bldg., 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
First Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - Onalaska Community Center, Onalaska WI.

ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB
First Tuesday - 8:00 p.m. - Dodge County Sheriff's Dep't, 141 N. Main, Juneau WI.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Second Tuesday - 7:00 p.m. - Sheboygan Red Cross/Boy Scout Bldg., 2032 Erie Ave.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
First Wednesday - Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek WI. Auctions in March and October.

TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m., the second Sunday of each month at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 314 Barrie, Fort Atkinson, WI.

WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Second Tuesday: ARES/RACES - 7:30 p.m., club meeting - 8:00 p.m., Town of Polk Town Hall, Hwy. 60 and Scenic Dr. Net on 146.13/73 every Monday 7:30 p.m.

WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEURS CLUB
Second Tuesday - 8:00 p.m. - St. Francis Savings, 9330 W. Greenfield Ave.

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
The next meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters will be held on Saturday, December 10, 1988, at the Countryside Inn, Hwy. 41 and Route 21, Oshkosh. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. with lunch at 12:00 Noon in the restaurant. Repeater licensees, trustees, and sponsors are urged to attend W.A.R. meetings. All interested parties are welcome, as well. The annual meeting with election of officers and proposed By-Law Changes will be held on the second Saturday in March.

WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION (WAUSAU)
First Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - Location varies; info on 146.04/64, Wausau.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO)
Days rotate: 1988 meeting dates: Wed., Nov. 16, Thu., Dec. 15. Monday meetings in room 28D of the Baraboo Civic Center; all others in room 25. Meetings start 7:30 p.m.

Let Badger State Smoke Signals know your club's meeting dates, and we will let our readers know of your meetings and activities. There may be Amateurs in your area interested in joining your club, or members of other interested in making an interclub visit.

The TEST POINT

The following are known locations where Amateur Radio license examinations are scheduled in the Badger State area.

November 12, 1988	Menomonie, WI
November 12, 1988	Rhineland, WI
November 12, 1988	Bloomington, MN
November 19, 1988	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 3, 1988	Stevens Point, WI
December 10, 1988	Appleton, WI
December 10, 1988	Bloomington, MN
December 17, 1988	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 17, 1988	St. Paul, MN
March 18, 1989	Menomonie, WI
June 17, 1989	Menomonie, WI
November 11, 1989	Menomonie, WI
Monthly, First Sat.	Racine, WI
Monthly, Third Sat.	Loves Park, IL

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Most examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL or Badger State

Smoke Signals. Send a 25¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL or BSSS. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$4.55 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their original Amateur license to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

November 19, & December 17

Unless otherwise noted, examinations are administered beginning at 1:00 p.m. at St. Nicholas Parish, 5353 N. Green Bay Ave. (2 1/2 blocks south of Silver Spring), Milwaukee. Number for coin telephone at exam location is 228-9994. Walk-ins are welcome. Bring your original license, a good photocopy of it, and a second form of identification. Technician license holders must bring proof of having been tested prior to March 21, 1987 to upgrade to General with code test only. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to be tested, your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Mickey Dolgin, KB9G, 507 E. Spooner Rd., Fox Point, WI 53217. (414) 351-5311.

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

December 10, 1988 - Roosevelt Junior High School, Appleton, Wis., 9:00 a.m. until noon. Walk-ins are always welcome. For more information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA, 7077 Weyers Rd., Freedom, WI 54131, or call (414) 788-3823.

STEVENS POINT, Wisconsin

December 3, 1988

By Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs, Ltd. Contact Joseph W. Larson, N9JW, 644 Portage St., Stevens Point, WI 54481. (715) 344-1182.

MENOMONIE, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Dunn County ARC. Walk-ins only. Credit Union Office Building, Conference Room, lower level, 444 S. Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Contact: Dr. Thomas W. King, KD9TT, c/o office, 444 S. Broadway, Suite 1, Menomonie, WI 54751. (715) 235-4747 (D), 235-5757 (H).

RHINELANDER, WISCONSIN

November 12, 1988.

All will be held at Nicolet College Science Center in the Fireside Room starting at 9:00 a.m. All sessions held at Nicolet College will be by appointment only. Registration required thirty days in advance of testing session, with check payable to "DeVry VEC" for \$4.55. Only Technician class and above will be given at the testing sessions.

Novice tests will be given by appointment at any time except at regular scheduled testing sessions.

Contact: Leonard Bauman St., K9RMN, 1312 Dorothy St., Rhineland, WI 54501. (715) 369-3296.

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

First Saturday of each month except during summer and the Christmas holidays.

Exams are given at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI. Walk-ins are permitted.

Send pre-registration to: William R. Firchol, Jr., N9DMP, 1912 27th Street, Kenosha WI 53140.

Third Saturday of every month.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (DeVry VEC). Held at North Suburban Library on North Second Street in Loves Park, IL. Contact: Gene Melton, AK9N, 2901 Billie Rd., Rockford, IL 61109, (815) 874-6867

MINNESOTA TESTS

November 12 - Bloomington

December 10 - Bloomington

December 17 - St. Paul

To register for these tests, or for more information, contact as follows:

St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club

Len Carlson at (612) 252-0783

Amateur Radio Association of Bloomington

Art Putt at (612) 881-7181

St. Paul Radio Club, Inc.

Mary Ketzler at (612) 426-4438

Minneapolis Amateur Radio Club

Jeff Kolb at (612) 699-6961.

Minnesota test information courtesy of Marv Mahre, W0MGI.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules.

Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN or K9ZZ at the address shown on page 2.

STILL MORE THEORIES

TO HELP MAKE SENSE OF A PUZZLING WORLD

(From Radiation, Chattanooga, TN By K4KYC, W4G4, Ed. - via ARNS)

Observe that when you clap your hands near a housefly, it quickly flies away. Remove the fly's wings, clap your hands and it does not fly away. This proves that removing a fly's wings causes it to become deaf.

Automobiles are sensitive. Ever notice how they congregate around an injured member of the herd after an accident?

Surely you will sleep better tonight knowing some of the solution to questions which have perturbed you in the wee hours.

JEFF SMITH
General Manager

StarStation

WRPQ

AM 740

STEREO

P.O. Box 456 • Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913 • (608) 356-3974

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Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq	UTC	CST	Manager
BWN	Yes	3984	1200	0600	KC9CJ
BEN	Yes	3985	1800	1200	KA9RII
WSBN	Yes	3985	2330	1730	K9ANV
WNN	Yes	3723	2400	1800	KA9TMM
WSSN	Yes	3645	0030	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0400	2200	W9NGP
NWTN	Yes	34/94	0030	1830	NS9Q
Gr Bay	No	72/12	0245	2045	WB9NRK
			Thu	Wed	
RACES No		3993.5	1815	1215	WC9AAG
		USB Tues and Thurs			
RACES No		3993.5	1400	0800	WA9OAY
		LSB Sunday			

From the Section Manager

Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Season's Greetings!

Congratulations to W9NZF, Fred, for 50 years of ARRL membership; he was presented a beautiful plaque at the Fall QCWA Chapter 55 meeting. Fred is also active in the Antique Wireless Association and has restored a number of classic radios.

New officers Wisconsin Chapter 55 QCWA: Chairman, KE9JJ; Vice Chairman, W9IEM; Secretary, K9FHI; Treasurer, K9GDF; Directors W9NN, W9DU, and W9VQD.

New officers Greater Milwaukee DX Association: President, N9AW; Vice President, N9AU; Secretary/Treasurer, K9GS.

New officers of Wisconsin Nets Association: Chairman, WA9W; Secretary, KA9KLZ; Treasurer, W9CBE; contact them with your questions and suggestions for traffic handling and net procedures.

DX enthusiast K9CJ, Jim, awarded "Hog of the Year" at the W9DXCC Convention, is on DXCC Honor Roll and listening for Albania stations. Actually, Jim is a gentleman and is known for his eagerness to help others.

Rumor is that W9ZM of Madison, with 365 DXCC countries confirmed, has only missed one country.

Exams will be held December 10th at Wauwatosa East High School; more information from KD9AJ.

Badger Examiners December 17th exam, 1 p.m. at St. Nicholas Parish in Milwaukee; reservations with WA9UJK.

Sorry to report Silent Keys K9GXR and W9SNK.

Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.

Universal Traffic Queries

NUMBER 14 OF A SERIES

Gene Santoski K9UTQ
Section Traffic Mgr-Wisconsin
1220 18th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Well, now that you have a good solid background on traffic handling (that is - if you've read this whole series) I would like to conclude by discussing some of the "frills" that are available to you as a traffic handler.

BRASS POUNDER'S LEAGUE

The Brass Pounder's League (BPL) consists of a group of dedicated and active traffic handlers. To qualify for the Brass Pounder's League listing in QST magazine does not mean that you have to be a hot-shot CW operator only "pounding brass" to handle traffic. This prestigious award can be earned on any mode. However, it originated way back when handling traffic on CW was the norm and the title has stuck ever since. Besides, it has a nice ring to it!

Membership in this elite group is open to all traffic handlers who meet certain criteria in 1 month of traffic activity. What is required is that a station must have a total traffic count in one month of 500 or more points or a total of Originations + Deliveries of 100 or more. Traffic totals should be reported to the Section anager, who will issue you a post-card size certificate attesting to the fact that the BPL requirements were met for that month. Any station who makes BPL for a third time (not consecutive months) will receive from ARRL headquarters an attractive brass medalion with the call letters engraved on the back. Look for BPL listings in the Public Service section of QST. I am proud to say that each month we have at least one Wisconsin station toward the top of the list - sometimes more! Your call could be listed in the BPL - GO FOR IT!!

PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Another traffic related activity that you can attempt to get is the Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR). Although no traffic handling is required to get on this listing it is basically earned by net operating and public service type communications. A total of 60 or more total points is required. There are nine categories some of which have a maximum number of points you can earn. Below, I list the categories and the maximum points for each:

1. Checking into CW nets - 1 point each time - Max of 30
2. Checking into phone/RTTY nets - 1 point each - Max of 30
3. Net Control on CW Nets - 3 points each time - Max of 12
4. Net Control on Phone/RTTY nets - 3 points each - Max 12
5. Performing assigned NTS liaison - 3 points each - No Max
6. Delivering formal messages - 1 point each - No Maximum
7. Handling emergency messages - 5 points each - No Maximum
8. Serving as Net Manager/Emerg Coordinator - 5 points
9. Participating in public service events - 5 points-No Max

I hope to see your call in the PSHR in an upcoming issue of QST.

TRAFFIC HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Another award that can be earned is the "Traffic Handler of the Year" which is presented to a traffic handler who reports the most points to the Section Manager in a given calendar year. The first award is a plaque. After you get a plaque you can earn additional tags which are

affixed to the plaque if you are in the top 3 for the year. This prestigious award is presented by the Wisconsin Nets Association, LTD (WNA) at it annual picnic in September. It represents a lot of hours and dedication to the National Traffic System and traffic handling.

WISCONSIN NETS ASSOCIATION, LTD

The WNA has been mentioned on several occasions in this series of articles and warrants an explanation as to what it is and why it exists.

The Wisconsin Nets Association, LTD was founded in early 1960 by a small group of traffic handling enthusiasts who felt there was a need for a common bond amongst all the nets in the Wisconsin Section. This bond would serve to strengthen the traffic handling activities in the Section by creating interest in an providing training in radio communications and traffic handling techniques. It also serves to coordinate the various nets in the Wisconsin Section to that they function with a standard ARRL recommended procedure. The WNA meets on a quarterly basis. Two of the meetings (December/March) are on the air and the other two (June/September) are "face to face" gatherings.

The September meeting is in conjunction with the Annual WNA Picnic. The meetings are attended by the officers and delegates to the WNA. Officers include a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer as well as a Training Officer (Section Traffic Manager). Also in attendance are the Section Manager and various Net Managers and delegates to their nets. Each net has 1 delegate for every 25 net members. All active traffic handlers are invited and urged to listen in or attend the meetings. Only officers, League officials and delegates have voting rights however.

The WNA is your organization and is open to any suggestions and ideas which can make our traffic handling efforts in the Wisconsin Section better. You can be proud that Wisconsin is the only Section with an organization of this type.

If you would like to become WNA BOOSTER (which includes a subscription to Smoke Signals) send \$10 to the WNA Treasurer who currently is Hale Blakely, W9CBE in McFarland.

Well, that completes this series on traffic handling. I hope that those of you who have read all articles have gained something from them. If you ever have any suggestions regarding any aspect of NTS or traffic handling in general, please feel free to contact me at the address above or call me at 715-423-6368. Also, I can be found on the Wisconsin nets.

Thanks, 73 es CU on the nets!

Gene, K9UTQ

Wisconsin Slow Speed Net (WSSN)

Lee G. Andreas, N9BDL, Net Manager
Route 1, 7600 Highway D East
Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539-9500.

The Annual Fall Picnic and eyeball meeting of the Wisconsin Nets Association is in the past, and a new slate of officers was elected to guide the group for the next two years. The Wisconsin (continued on page 15)

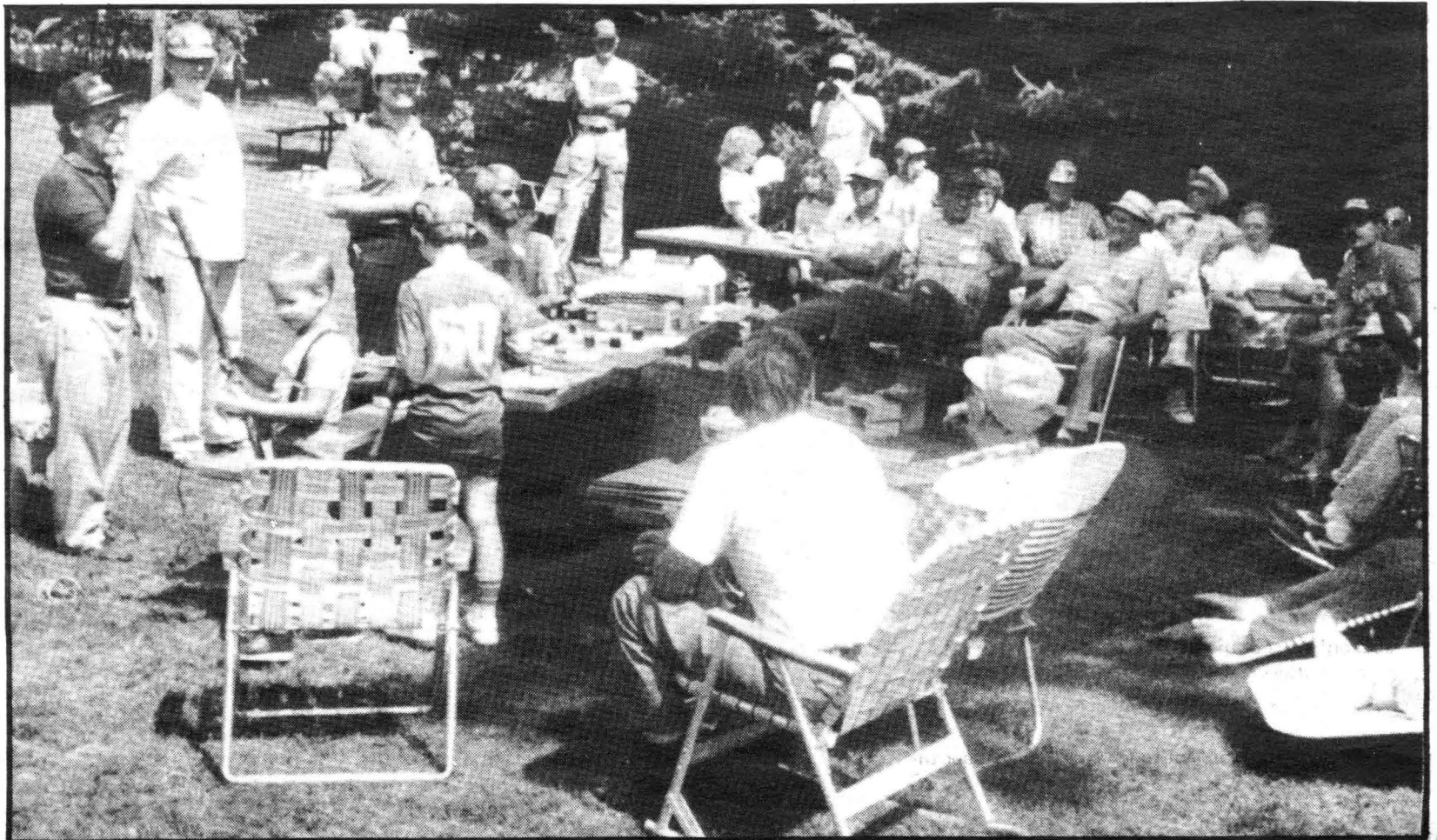
Green Foxes Enjoy Golden Corn

By Richard R.
Regent, K9GDF
5003 S. 26th St.
Milwaukee WI 53221

Green Foxes lurking around Zobel Park near Ripon, Wisconsin, gathered by noon on August 20, 1988, at the picnic grounds for loads of fun and food. Perfect summer weather brought most of the Green Fox Amateur Radio Club's members, other Amateurs, spouses and friends, for a total of over 100 people to enjoy the GF-ARC Annual Picnic and Auction.

The aroma of mouth-watering barbecue-grilled hamburgers, sausages, and roasted corn on the cob stimulated appetites and got conversation started. Vegetables, fruit, Jello's, and desserts filling two picnic table tops, insured that everyone soon forgot about being hungry and concentrated thoughts on a colorful picnic.

Several large containers of assorted free resistors were available for visitors to select and take the resistors they wanted. A small sign read: "Take what you need, but need what you take". There was a variety of complimentary ARRL handouts for newcomers to pick up, extra literature from the Green Fox ARC Mall demonstra-



Some of the more than 100 Radio Amateurs, spouses, friends and kids who attended the Green Fox Amateur Radio Club's picnic and auction on August 20, 1988,

are shown in this photo taken by Al Johnson, WB9-FMU. Good food was abundant; there was no excuse for leaving hungry! An auction was also held.

tion station that the Club had in operation a few days before.

After the dessert, a record-breaking auction of donated equipment began. Items were lined up on the grass near the border between the picnic clearing and the woods in a display area fifty feet long by 5 feet wide. Computers, coaxial cable, telephones, tables, power supplies, tubes - it didn't seem to matter; in almost a humor-

ous way, the asking price of every item began at one dollar. Sometimes, less expensive gear was tossed in with other items until a dollar bid was heard. During the auction, there were many conversations to catch up on news or renew friendships.

A delightful picnic was had by all. There wasn't even any rain or ants.



Memorial station dedicated

The Dunn County Amateur Radio Club has presented a plaque to radio stations WMNE/WMEQ, Menomonie, in memory of long-time radio amateur and club member Dr. Phil Ruehl, K9HJT, now a Silent Key. The plaque dedicates an emergency Amateur Radio station, which was installed at the broadcast station by the Dunn County ARC. The plaque's inscription reads,

"The emergency Amateur Radio Station at this site is dedicated to the memory of our friend, Phil Ruehl, K9HJT."

In the photo, Dr. Tom King, KD9TT (right), presents the plaque to Mrs. Chris Ruehl, and to Mike Phillips, owner of WMNE/WMEQ. The photo was taken by Layne Pitt, of the Dunn County News, and was forwarded to Badger State Smoke Signals by Dr. Tom King, KD9TT.

Unportable



BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED - OR NEEDED - WITH THIS ITEM! Among items offered at the Oct. 4 FLARC auction in Madison was this venerable (and heavy) Magnecorder tape deck, hefted for all to see by auctioneers Ted Gisske, K9IMM (left), and Don Bucholtz, KC9JP. Magnecorder tape decks ("Maggies") are a familiar sight to many radio announcers. - K9ZZ photo

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ARRL petitions for early entry to 17-meter band

The American Radio Relay League has requested the FCC issue an Order permitting immediate interim use of 17 meters, 18.068 - 18.168 MHz, by US radio amateurs on a secondary, non-interference basis.

The ARRL said that US amateurs have been waiting for the opportunity to use the band since the results of the 1979 WARC were announced nearly 10 years ago. The rapid rise in the current sunspot cycle is "providing significant opportunities for worldwide communications in the 17 meter band" and amateur interest in using this band is high.

The FCC has already reallocated the band to the Amateur Radio Service on a primary, exclusive basis, effective July 1, 1989. Until that time, the band remains an alternative allocation to the Fixed Service, and some government stations are still operating there. FCC has initiated PR Docket 88-467 to develop permanent rules for amateur use of the band.

In support of its request, the ARRL said that the large number of amateurs from more than 60 other countries already operating on 17 meters has shown that immediate US amateur operation "would cause no significant, additional interfer-

ence" to the few, if any, remaining government stations still using the band.

The ARRL also argued that "failure to provide early access to the band will preclude propagation studies covering an entire sunspot cycle, thus deferring research for a great number of years. As each sunspot cycle is unique, some work would be precluded entirely unless immediate access to the band is permitted."

According to the ARRL request, amateurs would follow the FCC suggested band plan of 18.068 - 18.110 MHz for digital and CW emissions, and 18.110 - 18.168 MHz for CW, phone, facsimile and television emissions. Furthermore, if deemed necessary by the FCC, the ARRL would not object to an interim power limitation of 200 watts output.

There is a precedent for amateur interim use of a new band. In 1982, prior to the ratification of the WARC - 79 treaty by the US, the FCC issued an Order permitting interim amateur use of the 10.100 - 10.150 MHz band.

- From The ARRL Letter, published by the American Relay League, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111

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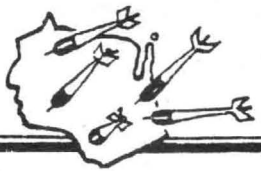
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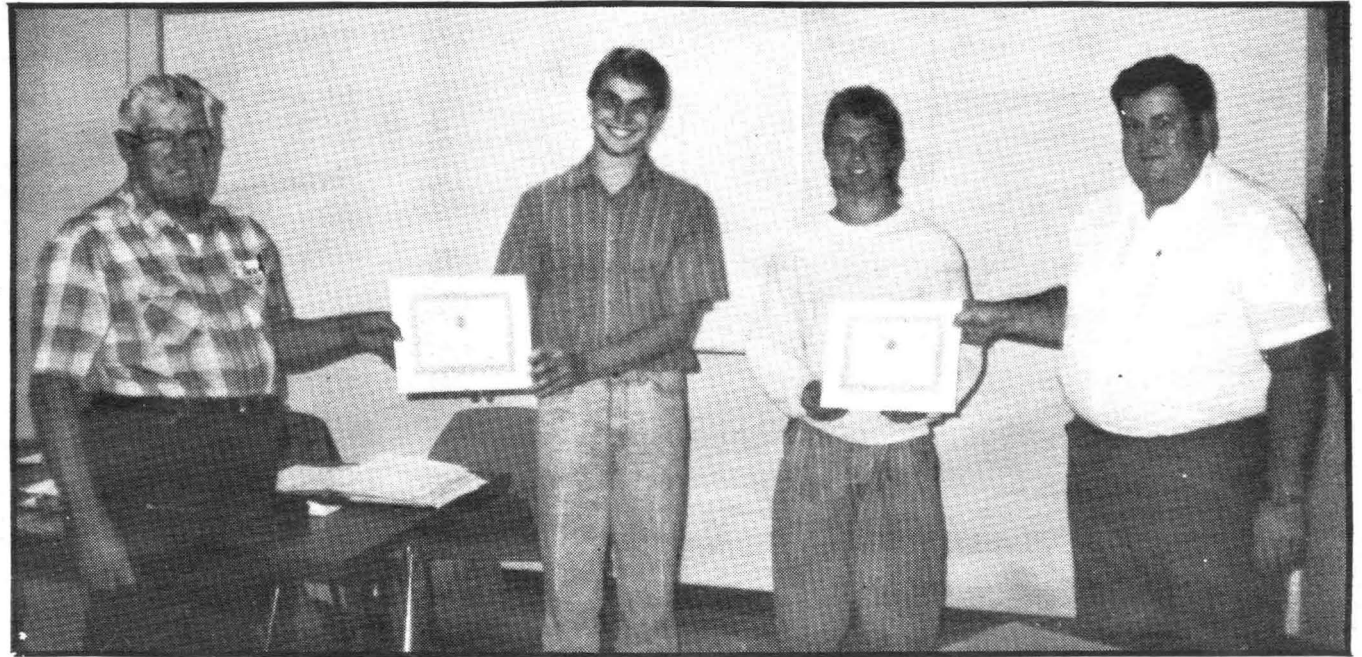
HERE and THERE

REMINDER: Resonance Research Corporation's annual Open House will be October 29 (Saturday) at their factory on County Highway A north of Baraboo. RRC makes such items as huge, multi-Megavolt Tesla coils, and many other spectacular devices. It starts around 6:00 p.m.; more info, with a map, is in our October issue. The RRC driveway isn't marked in any special way; we'll see if we can make it more easily findable.

:-----:

AIN'T SO!! We hear that some Wisconsin Amateurs believe this paper is for southern Wisconsin Hams; that is not the case, gang. Our name is Badger State Smoke Signals. It may be true that news from that area predominates at times, but if that's the case, it's only because those in the northern part of Wisconsin fail to submit material to be published. We publish what we get! If it's from the south, and it's newsworthy, it is printed, but that formula also works for upstate Hams, too. We depend on our readers to submit articles and photos; if you don't, then please don't complain.

West Allis RAC Presents Scholarships



West Allis Radio Amateur Club President Les Peterson, W9YCV (left), and WARAC Board Chairman Dave Knaus, WA9POV (right), present scholarship certificates to Doug Kleeman, KA9LWN, of Shawano, and Scott Young, N9FZS, of Colby. Doug and Scott were selected by the Foundation for Amateur Radio to receive the two \$700

Emil Kumershek (W9WYF) Memorial Scholarships, which were available exclusively to Wisconsin residents. (Badger State Smoke Signals will publish a list of 1989 - 1990 scholarships available through the Foundation for Amateur Radio in March or April, 1989).

- Photo via Dave Knaus, WA9POV



SSB

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FOR SALE: Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitter; National NC-303 receiver. \$100.00 for both. Also, trap dipole antenna. Mike Hal-ler, 628 3rd Avenue, Baraboo, WI 53913. 608/356-3235.

:-----:

FOR SALE: Koala pad for Radio Shack computers. Also 8 memory expansion chips for Radio Shack Model 4 or 4P. Jim Rom-elfanger, K9ZZ, 412 1/2 Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913. 608/356-4249.

:-----:

ADS IN SELL, SWAP, BUY ARE FREE. Send your ad to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901.

QSO Party plaque presented

Lynn Tamblin, K9KR (left), of the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Wisconsin QSO Party sponsor, presents Steve Dubberstein, NA9D, with a plaque for his first place finish this year in the single operator, fixed station category. Operating from his parents' cabin in Forest county, he had 338 CW QSOs, 372 on SSB, and 93 multipliers, for a score of 66530. The presentation was made at the South Milwaukee ARC's Swapfest in July. Photo courtesy of Dave Knaus, WA9POV.



Maxim Award given

The winner of the 1987 Hiram Percy Maxim Award, given annually by the American Radio Relay League to a deserving young Radio Amateur, was Stacey L. Garner, KA9WDE, of Harshaw, Wisconsin. Stacey was selected to win the award by the League's Board of Directors at their second meeting of 1988 (see cover story in BSSS, September, 1988). Stacey was presented with her award by Wisconsin Section Manager Richard R. Regent, K9GDF, at the Illinois State ARRL Convention, held in Rockford on October 2. She received a plaque and a check for \$1000.

In his presentation speech, Rich said, in part: "Stacey has helped teach Novice classes. She prepares class materials with her home computer. Last year, her group had 9 new Novices, and this year there are 14 more." Stacey, now 14 years old, has her Amateur Extra Class license.

-K9GDF/K9ZZ



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He's on the mend

How I spent my summer

By Scot Herrick, NB9C
5150 Anton Drive, #311
Madison, WI 53719

As many of the readers of Badger State Smoke Signals know, the tower that I was on for Field Day lost a guy wire – and, as you know, no unguyed tower is self-supporting. So, the tower and I took a 30-foot fall and hit the dry, parched earth back in June. As I write this, it has been 12 weeks since the fall, and the time has come for some reflections on my experience – an experience that is hard and painful, yet uplifting and joyful.

Medically, I suffered from a cracked left heel, a shattered right ankle, a broken pelvis, and a broken radial bone in my right wrist. Since I had never had a broken bone in my life, I figured they provided me with the multiple fracture discount on this trip.

I was told later that if we had gone to a different hospital, rather than Meriter-Methodist, I probably would not have been around to write this article. The blood loss from the pelvis fracture really dropped the blood pressure, and for a while it was touch and go.

Credit the fast work of Steve Polishinski, WB9YSD, for being on the radio calling the fire rescue squad before I hit the ground. And, many others – my accident was called in by five or six different people. And, credit Ken Trachte, N9ADN, with keeping things in perspective and doing the medically correct things when he was forced to change from Chief Field Day Cook to his real job – a Captain with the Madison Paramedics. Every radio club should have at least one.

The rest of Sunday was one big blur. The emergency room, all the people, surgery for ten hours (six on the ankle alone), all passed by like I wasn't even there. All I remember was waking up Sunday night about ten, and then going back to sleep.

Monday was news day. I was told of all my injuries, and was told that I would be in the hospital for three months. Because I broke both of my "feet", there was no way to do any weight bearing – and therefore walking – until something healed. In the midst of morphine heaven, I thought that it was not as bad as it could have been (and I still feel that way).

The prognosis for recovery was simple, but difficult to implement – regain muscle strength in my arms and legs, and wait until something healed. It takes three times as long to build up a muscle as it does to weaken it totally, and laying in bed is not the way to build up muscles.

Three weeks at Methodist consisted of an immense amount of pain (don't ever break your pelvis – all the muscles connect



Scot Herrick, NB9C

there – the saying "It only hurts when I laugh" originated here), along with a blur of people, get-well cards, flowers, and a wonderful nursing staff. At this point, I was barely sitting in a wheelchair for an hour twice a day, and I had virtually no muscle strength. And with that, I transfer to Meriter-Madison General to begin therapy. From my nice and safe hospital bed, I knew that with the transfer the times were going to change.

Madison General's Rehabilitation Unit came very highly recommended. It was easy to see why. After arriving, the first thing that happened was a conference with the primary nurse for my care. She explained that, although I may not feel like it just yet, I was no longer "sick", but physically disabled – and they were going to work on that. Dinner was in the dining area on the floor, you wear your own clothes (and do your own wash), the nurses do not wear uniforms; you could tell that the times had changed.

There were three therapies for me: physical, occupational, and recreational. Times were scheduled for all three twice a day. Consequently, one is in not in the room much. Physical therapy addresses gross muscle strength and walking, occupational therapy addresses fine motor skills (eye-hand coordination, for example) and daily living skills (how to get dressed in the morning – try it with two casts and no muscle strength while lying down....), and

recreational therapy addresses having some fun – after all, hospitals can be real boring.

Progress here was fairly rapid. It was frustrating, though, because every time I got a muscle group strong, my therapist would promptly show me another that I couldn't move. That is still going on today. I never knew the body had so many muscles, and that you need virtually every one.

After a total of ten weeks, I was able to bear weight on my left leg. Up off the wheelchair and on to crutches. After a total of eleven and one-half weeks – home, with outpatient therapy every day. Next step is getting the cast off the right arm, and being able to bear weight on the thumb and wrist. Then, being able to bear weight on the right foot and walk with a cane. Then, after that, just walk. Walking looks so simple – but it is not. Maybe by Christmas – this sure is a long Field Day, isn't it?

That is the pain and the hard work part of all of this – and it still continues. The joyful part is the incredible amount of support that I have received and continue to receive from my friends – and especially from the Amateur community.

My club, the Four Lakes ARC, really did itself proud. They set up a visitors schedule so that I would have a visitor every evening, kept me well informed about "on the air" happenings, and generally took me under their wing.

The surprising thing to me was the number of cards and letters from hams that I have never met and whose calls I had never heard. From all over Wisconsin, from California to Boston, even from a club station in Switzerland; from all over came the cards and letters. This, to me, was a truly outstanding example of the care and concern that Amateurs show in times of need.

And, the important thing to know is that all of the cards and letters help. One has to feel moved when you receive over 180 get-well cards and letters. Think about it – many of those people did not know me, yet they went out and spent a dollar for a card and 25 cents for a stamp, with no expectation of a reply, or even knowing if the card would help. The cards from Switzerland came air mail. It still is pretty amazing to me.

So that's how I spent my summer. A lot of pain and a lot of work. The good news is that I missed the hottest summer in my lifetime, missed hay fever season, and missed going to work. And I got to know a great bunch of people even better, while truly understanding what a great hobby Amateur Radio really is. It just goes to show that in every tragedy there is much to learn, much to discover, and many reasons to fight and live. □

New Products



ICOM IC-448 440 MHz MOBILE

Icom is proud to announce the new IC-448 25 watt 440 MHz mobile. The IC-448 features:

- * Multi-color LCD; orange, red and green highlight operating information.
- * 440 - 450 MHz frequency coverage.
- * 20 memory channels; lock-out function allows you to store the frequency, offset, and subaudible tone for each memory.
- * Programmable scan - Scan frequencies between the two programmable frequencies.

* Memory scan - Scan all memory channels or lock out channels within the memory sequence.

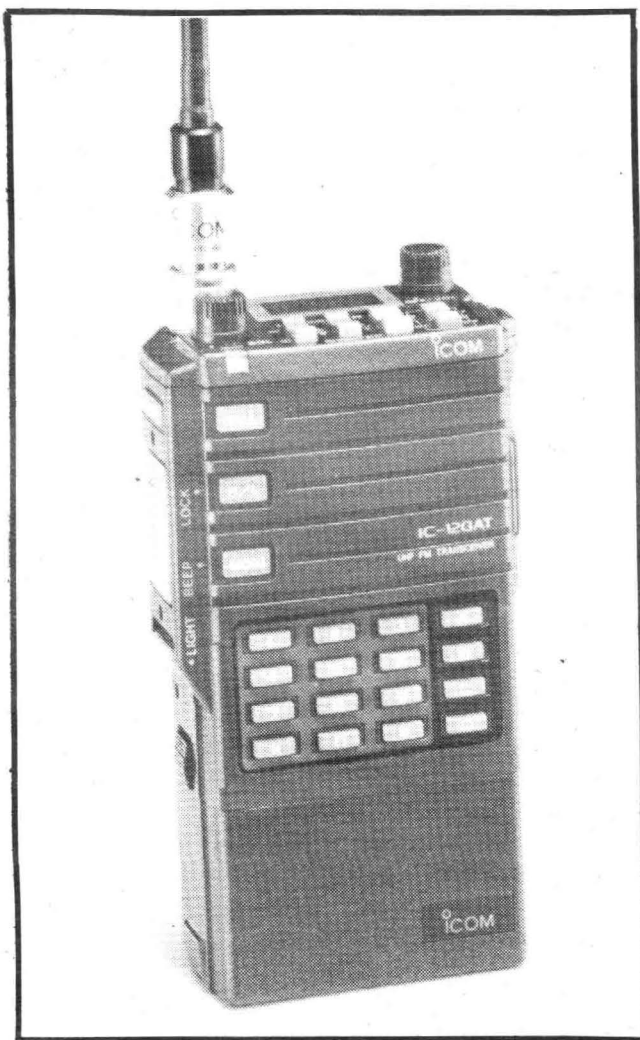
* Priority watch - Monitor the call channel, a memory channel, or all memory channels every five seconds while operating on another frequency.

* Compact - measures only 5.5"W by 2.0"H by 5.4"D.

* Optional UT-40 tone squelch unit: When the frequency of a received tone equals the tone frequency you've set, a 30 second alarm is emitted. Acts like a beeper/pager.

The IC-448 will be available in October, 1988; suggested retail price is to be announced.

IT'S IMPORTANT! When inquiring about or ordering items described in the "New Products" column, please be sure to mention that you read about them in Badger State Smoke Signals.



ICOM IC-12GAT 1.2 GHZ HANDHELD

Icom is proud to announce the next dimension in 1.2 GHz activity. The new IC-12GAT handheld transceiver lets you enjoy full base station luxury in a portable unit.

Designed with a rugged, water resistant shell for daily outdoor action, the IC-12GAT boasts Icom's newest features:

* Splash resistance - the IC-12GAT is designed for use in rugged outdoor conditions.

* Wideband coverage - the IC-12GAT receives and transmits 1240 - 1300 MHz.

* One watt power output - switch to low power (0.1W) instantly.

* 20 memory channels - store any frequency, TX offset and subaudible tone in any memory. Total flexibility!

* Programmable scan and memory scan - programmable scan function enables you to scan all frequencies between two programmable scan edge frequencies. The memory scan function scans all memory channels except those you choose to lock out.

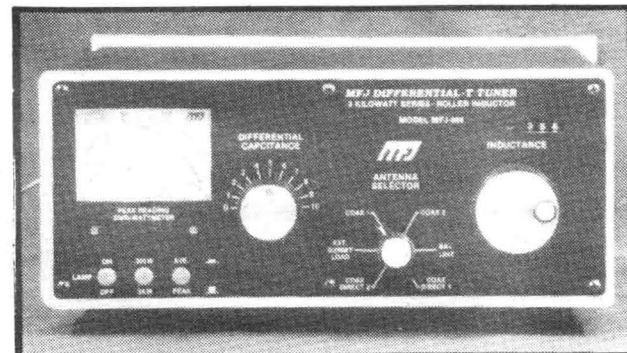
* Built-in 1750 Hz repeater access tone - instant repeater access with the touch of one button!

The IC-12GAT also includes built-in battery saver, built-in DTMF keyboard, programmable call channel, all subaudible tones, multi-function LCD readout and DTMF pad. The new "G Series" handhelds are compatible with all Icom IC-2AT/IC-02AT series battery packs, headsets and speaker/mikes.

An optional UT-40 beeper silently monitors a busy channel for your calls. When the pre-programmed subaudible tone and frequency is received, the unit beeps and

the LCD flashes.

The Icom IC-12GAT is now available; suggested list price is \$529.00. For more information, please contact Icom America, 2380 - 116th Ave. N.E., Bellevue, WA 98004. (From Icom news releases)



MFJ-986 3KW ANTENNA TUNER

MFJ Enterprises, Inc. announces the release of the new 3 KW Roller Inductor Differential-T Antenna Tuner - a uniquely designed T-network tuner that uses a single differential capacitor in place of two variable capacitors. It covers 1.8 to 30 MHz continuously, including MARS and all the WARC bands.

The differential capacitor makes tuning foolproof and easier than ever, because you get minimum SWR at only one setting, and you have only two controls to adjust. It also gives you a broadband response that eliminates constant retuning. The roller inductor lets you get your SWR down to absolute minimum - something a tapped inductor tuner just can't do.

A three-digits counter plus spinner knob gives you the precise inductance control you need to instantly return to your favorite frequency.

The compact 10 3/4" X 4 1/2" X 15" black aluminum cabinet has plenty of room to mount the silver plated roller inductor away from metal surfaces for highest Q and maximum power into your antenna.

A lighted two color peak and average reading cross-needle SWR/wattmeter lets you read forward and reflected power and SWR at a glance. A new directional coupler gives you more accurate SWR and power readings over a wider frequency range.

A six-position antenna switch lets you select two coax lines and/or random wires (direct or through the tuner), balanced line, and external dummy load.

A new current balun for balanced lines reduces feedline radiation that causes RF in your shack, field pattern distortion and TVI. Ceramic feedthru insulators for balanced lines withstand high voltages and temperatures.

The new MFJ-986 3 KW Roller Inductor Differential - T Antenna Tuner comes with MFJ's one year unconditional guarantee; MFJ will repair or replace your MFJ tuner (at MFJ's option), no matter what, for a full year. For more information, contact MFJ Enterprises, Inc. at (601) 323-5869, or write P.O. Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762, or order toll-free at (800) 647-1800. (MFJ news release)

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Bob Fallis, W9BAR,
Secretary
1851 McKinley Road
Eau Claire, WI 54703

The next meeting of the Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club will be held November 8th at 7:30 in the evening in the Parks and Recreation Building at 1300 First Avenue. All members are urged to attend

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by President Jerry Marx, NG9A. Seventeen members were present. The minutes of the September meeting, as published in BSSS, were approved as read. The financial report was read and approved.

A slate of candidates for next year's officers has been made. This list will be presented to the members at the November meeting, with further nominations being taken from the floor. The election will be held at the December meeting.

It was decided to have a Christmas party again this year. The coordinating committee has been chosen. The exact date will be announced at the next meeting.

A letter of thanks from the American Legion was read. Some of our members furnished communications for traffic control and coordinating the units during their July parade.

Examinations will be given next Saturday for interested Hams. They will be held in the maintenance building of the University from 9 a.m. until noon.

Care to join us for a Coffee Klatch? Members meet every Saturday morning at 8 at the Fireside Restaurant, and at 8:30 at Hardee's on North Hastings Way. They also get together Thursday evenings at 8:30 at the Country Kitchen.

All members are reminded that 1989 dues are payable at any time from now until the end of the year. Get yours in early and make certain you get your subscription to BSSS.

Lunch Committee: W9NW and KA9HWN.
The meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert Fallis, W9BAR
Secretary

New Products

KANTRONICS PUBLISHES BOOKS

Kantronics, Inc. has announced the publication release of several digital communication books, as well as other books related to the Amateur Radio hobby. These books are published by Kantronics, and carry the name Kantronics Press.

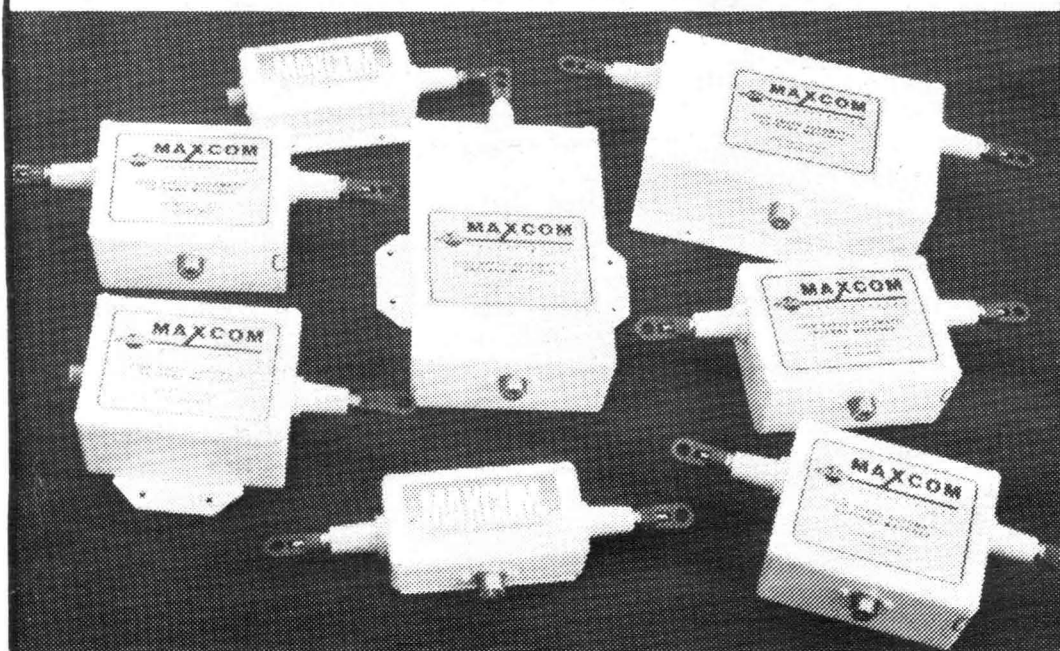
The latest title releases include:

- "Introduction to Packet Radio"
- "Packet Command Handbook"
- "Advanced Packet"
- "The Hamfest Book: Where, When, How Many"
- "RS-232 as Related to Packet"
- "Beginning Packet.. An Operator's Guide"
- "Glossary of Packet Terms", and
- "Communication Codes Handbook"

The retail price in the U.S. for each book is \$2.95, plus \$1.00 shipping and handling charge. To order, please contact your Kantronics dealer (see the back page of each issue of this paper) or the factory.

(Press release from Kantronics, Inc., 1202 E. 23 Street, Lawrence, KS 66046.)

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EAA station successful

The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club operated a special event station at the 1988 Experimental Aircraft Association Convention and Fly-In, held the last part of July and the first part of August, at Wittman Field in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. This year, the club operated W9ZL from the grounds of Jacob Shapiro School, just north of Wittman Field. This location, according to a report sent to Section Manager Richard Regent by Wayne Pennings, WD9FLJ, "proved to be an almost ideal site."

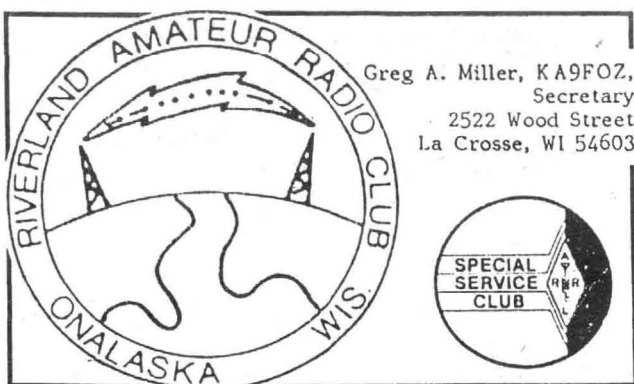
In that report, Pennings says 23 Hams helped to man the station, which operated 24 hours a day, starting at 6:00 a.m. July 30, and ending 100 hours later at 10:00 a.m. August 3. The station operated on the 10, 15, 20, and 40 meter bands. All stations were out-of-doors.

Pennings summarized the operation in his report: "The station worked 14 countries. Some of them include: Australia, Japan, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Norway, Sweden, England, Puerto Rico, Java, and Surinam. The first DX contact was made at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday with VK1KM in Canberra, Australia. The last DX contact was on Wednesday a.m. with WA9AYR/VE1 mobile in the Yukon Territory. The station made 1252 total contacts to include: 823 on 40 meters, 366 on 20 meters, 41 on 15 meters, 19 on 10 meters, and 3 on 2 meters (VHF). These totals include the figures to show that we worked stations in all of the 50 United States. In fact, W9ZL ended up only 6 states short of a WAS (Worked All States) award on one band.. 40 meters! The states missed on 40 were RI, VT, NH, NM, UT, and Wyoming."

The report concludes: "Needless to say, the Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club is proud of its members who operated the station, and views this year's EAA event as a huge success."

- Forwarded to BSSS by WI
Section Manager Richard Regent, K9GDF

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Greg A. Miller, KA9FOZ,
Secretary
2522 Wood Street
La Crosse, WI 54603

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 p.m. by President Craig Goldbeck. The minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

It was requested that a report be given as to the status of the Explorer Post that the club has been working on. It was reported that the local Boy Scouts have not been able to recruit anyone at this point, due to a busy schedule on their part. They reported to us that the next meeting should show some interest.

A discussion started as to our procedure on exams, how we do them, and how often. It was suggested that we make a small junction box that would house jacks for headphones for people to use when taking the code test. It was mentioned that it could be done as a club project.

Swapfest results were mentioned; 45 - 50 people were at the fest, which netted the club \$68.00. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, although selling was low. There were some ideas mentioned as to next year and how we should run the swapfest.

We will be ordering club patches as soon as a quote is received from the supplier.

A committee of one was chosen to check into prices for our Christmas dinner to be held in January; this will be discussed more at the November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

It was announced that any interesting articles and pictures can be used for publication in BSSS. More information on this can be gotten from Greg, KA9FOZ.

It was announced that the Riverland

Packet Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn on October 22; the fee is \$7.00. There will be interesting speakers and programs.

Winner of the drawing this month was "Knute" Knutson, W9SFL.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Total members present was 28.

Respectfully submitted:
Greg A. Miller

PRESIDENT'S GAVEL

I would like to thank the people who helped me out at the Swapfest: Art, WØJDC; Bill, WB9VYI; and Mickey, WD9GYT, for watching the door and passing out goodies for all to eat, and Rick, KV9U, for securing the building.

Much attention has been given to our swapfest in recent years as to its size. Many of us have voiced an opinion that it should get bigger. The Swapfest Committee of the past conducted an informal phone poll as to the interest within the club for a larger swapfest. The vast majority of you favored a larger swapfest. The club was within one step of going bigger this year, but the big stumbling block was the lack of insurance for such an event. The proper insurance is available thru the ARRL for around \$279.00 a year, and would also cover any club function throughout the year. This is very reasonable, as some local companies couldn't even touch that price for even a one-day event.

It has also been suggested that we stay at the current facility and advertise the heck out of it and pack the building and overflow into the parking lot.

To all this, I say I'm 100% behind anything the club wants to do, but if the club says it wants a bigger fest, they are going to have to all be committed to making the fest work and to working at the fest or helping out in some way. The officers of your club are not going to run this kind of event all on their own. We will, of course, help in any way that we can, but it takes more than three people to do a bigger event than we do. Maybe we, as officers, should put our foot down and appoint people to run this. It isn't my nature to force people to do things that they don't want to do, so if nobody volunteers to do these

things, they aren't going to happen, it seems.

I know that we have a lot of talented people in our group who could handle a project for the club. I'm not only talking about the swapfest, but all the other club functions.

The officers are also interested in your ideas for club programs. If you have program ideas, pass them along to Mike, Greg, or myself.

Things to remember:

* The Christmas Dinner will be coming up, and we are starting to plan for it now.

* The people at Badger State Smoke Signals would like to get pictures from us and/or articles for the paper; if you are interested, check with Greg.

73 'til next month.

Craig

MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Miller	KA9FOZ
Charlie Burch	KA9UUK
Herman Ludvik	W9HJV
Walter Altus	WD9GCR
Hugh Barker	KAØEJZ
Glenn Whitlock	NØBBW
Karl Olberg	W4ST
George Kroner	KA9HOP
John Jorenby	KA9ETH
Curt Phelps	KA9YPP
Dick Low	KØJYB
Mike Tessmer	NØBSH
Craig Goldbeck	N9ETD
Duane Fruechte	W9HWQ
Mickey Simpson	WD9GYT
John Kass	WA9IZY
Art Osborn	WØJDC
Arby Boomer	N9HBQ
Dan McKenzie	WCØV
Roger Reader	KA9BKK
Ray Wakeen	WA9HHM
Nook Bentzen	K9EGO
Laurence Knutson	W9SFL
Dallas Miller	K9LEC
Gary Webb	NI9V
Al Reinholz	N9FZE
Bill Wood	WB9VYI

GUESTS PRESENT

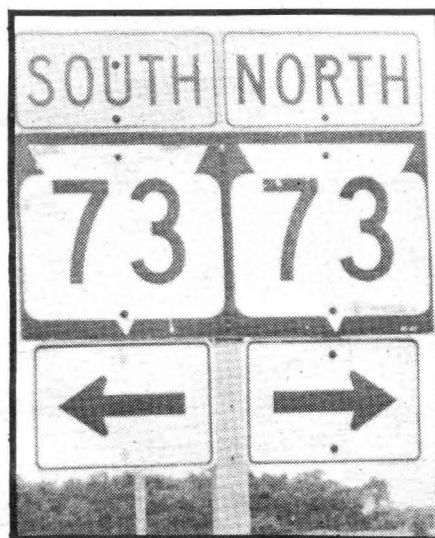
Marshall Kiel	N9FVU
Gary Mattie	KG5NM
Denise Sobkowiak	XYL of KG5NM



John's Junk Box

By John W. Frank, WB9TQG
P. O. Box 5113
Madison, WI 53705

John is taking a month off; he'll be back in December with more fine articles. In the meantime, he sends along this picture to convey his greetings to his readers!



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TODAY

Hams provide hurricane communications

(Continued from front page)

Milwaukee Red Cross officials maintained telephone contact with Fred in hopes that Amateur Radio could catch words from the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Cayman Islands, or the Yucatan.

When reports relayed by Amateur Radio slowly unfolded a grim story, it was soon apparent that Gilbert was the worst natural disaster in the modern history of Jamaica. Roofs were being blown off hotels and hospitals; all normal communications were out of service. Fragments of messages pieced together indicated that people were seen scurrying away from disaster areas only to be overcome by floods. Fred heard a weak signal; it was a military officer transmitting from Montego Bay on Jamaica's north coast, who was reporting that 16,800 people in the area were now homeless.

In some cases, Fred received precious radio replies to deliver to families in the Milwaukee area. Fred says, "I'll always remember the voices when I phoned relatives and loved ones of surviving hurricane victims, especially their cries of joy for finally getting some news. Many families said they could not thank me enough and gave their sincere hopes that God Bless Amateur Radio."

Fred interrupted his radio diligence to be interviewed on WT-MJ-TV Milwaukee news, briefly explaining the radio relay system and answering questions. Jerry Scherkenbach, N9AW, was also seen on TV-4 Milwaukee on the 10:00 p.m. news September 15, helping get messages through on 20 meters. Many southeast Wisconsin Amateur Radio operators received acclaim and proved again to be very responsive.

Our Section Traffic Manager, Gene Santoski, K9UTQ, in Wisconsin Rapids, says he "got some good media coverage September 15. Several people in my area phoned me to find out how their friends and relatives were doing down in the stricken Texas area. The Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune, Radio WFHR, and Channel 9 Television in Wausau all had coverage of my activity. The TV-9 camera crew came here to televise live action reports from my station." Gene has a video tape from the television coverage of his radio assistance as a remembrance of Amateur Radio's capabilities to help out in emergencies.

There are probably many other reports of Amateur Radio involved in reporting Hurricane Gilbert activity. The Badger State Smoke Signals readers would be delighted to read about your volunteer help, too.

Thanks to all for a job well done!

Nets help efforts

Amateur Radio emergency networks were in full swing beginning the week of September 11, as Hurricane Gilbert swept through the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico toward the eastern coast of Mexico and Texas. The Hurricane Watch Net (14.325 MHz) monitored the progress of the storm, and provided the latest coordinates to those radio amateurs in the affected area. N4EHW served as liaison with the National Hurricane Center in Florida, and reports coming from Amateur Radio stations in the path of Gilbert were relayed to the Hurricane Center by this and other liaison stations. KØIND served many hours as Net Control of the Hurricane Watch Net.

On Tuesday, September 13, the FCC Miami's Field Office designated two frequencies, 14.275 and 14.325 MHz, as emergency frequencies for hurricane message traffic on behalf of the National Hurricane Center. These nets were already handling emergency traffic with Amateur Radio stations in Jamaica. K1MAN coordinated net activities on 14.275, and The Friendly Caribus Connection Net on 14.283, with WA2OLE, also served as a major net for health and welfare messages. A net on 14.285, headed by NØEZT, also served as a focal point for many health and welfare inquiries.

Shortly after Gilbert hit Jamaica, it was clear that Amateur Radio was a vital communications link. First priority was given to outgoing traffic coming from the few Amateur Radio stations on Jamaica (6Y5AL, 6Y5EE, 6Y5EPS, 6Y5MB, 6Y5MC, 6Y5SG, K2-BPP/6Y5, among others). Meanwhile, service agencies such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army geared up to provide emergency aid to the stricken areas. Amateur Radio carried emergency-related messages for countless agencies and hospitals providing assistance. In communities around the US, the National Traffic System responded to hundreds of inquiring families by routing health and welfare messages to the affected area. In spite of health and welfare traffic being the lowest priority going into the area, and due to the unusual amount of inquiries involved and the difficulty of servicing, a large percentage of responses were promptly received by families and loved ones stateside.

The public service provided by Amateur Radio continues as the people and places affected by Hurricane Gilbert begin to recover and rebuild.

- From The ARRL Letter

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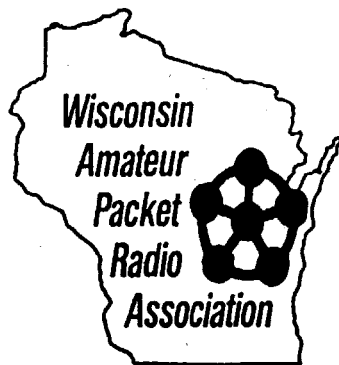
Rib Mountain repeater meeting Nov. 12

The Rib Mountain Repeater Association, operator of the 146.22./146.82 MHz repeater on Rib Mountain at Wausau, will hold its 16th annual business meeting of the general membership Saturday, November 12, 1988, at 1:30 p.m. in the community meeting room on the second floor of Washington Square Mall in downtown Wausau. Non-members and non-amateurs are welcome. The annual meeting is the only general membership meeting held by RMRA. Several door prizes will be given away, and refreshments will be available. After the meeting, a 20-minute videotape from NASA will be shown: "Space Shuttle Satellite Rescue."

The meeting provides the opportunity to offer your suggestions about the repeater to the board of directors and the membership. Parking is available at several downtown locations and lots, and in the mall ramp just south of Washington Square Mall. Talkin on the RMRA 22/82 repeater. - Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ



HERBERT!



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association (WAPR)

c/o CARL SCHUMACHER, N9BYS
7740 EVERGREEN TERRACE
BURLINGTON, WI 53106

Steve Loeffler, WB9ZRE, Editor, 123 W. Oshkosh St., Ripon, WI 54971

PK232 - DCD

Recently, several new packeteers using PK-232s have appeared on our local duplex repeater which is dedicated to packet radio. This is one environment where the collision frequency should be very low since there are no hidden terminals. Almost immediately we noticed that the collision frequency had risen dramatically. After some investigation we discovered certain stations were almost guaranteed to be involved in stepping on in-progress packets. These stations were contacted and in all but 1 case they were new users of PK-232s.

We were very puzzled as there have always been some stations on the repeater using PK-232s with no apparent problems. The new stations were asked how their station was configured and what method was used to get the DCD operation adjusted. We were very surprised at the answers we got. Every single one of the offending stations had set their station up exactly according to the instructions in the PK-232 manual. However, contrary to the advice given in the manual, none of these stations had configured their setup so that they could hear what was going on on the channel when the PK-232 was connected to the radio. None of these new operators knew what DCD meant, what it did, or why it was important that it should be working on a multiple access packet channel. We obtained a PK-232 and manual to try and discover the exact nature of the problem. What we found was that although the manual is very complete and generally very well written, there are some areas where it leaves something to be desired. Specifically, in this case, the instructions given on page 2-16 (we had manual PK232UG Rev. B 9/86 for reference) for setting up the PK-232 and an FM radio for DCD operation are simply incorrect. If set up exactly as described, DCD will NEVER be asserted during a packet transmission by another station on the channel!! We had found the cause of our problem.

If you have a PK-232 and haven't already discovered this problem for yourself, please disregard the instructions in the manual for setting up a PK-232 and NBFM radio for 1200 baud packet operation and use the method presented here. All your packet neighbors will appreciate it very much.

The manual is quite correct in all respects EXCEPT where they discuss setting the DCD THRESHOLD control and receiver audio output level for proper demodulation and DCD circuit operation. The correct way to set these adjustments is as follows:

1. At least temporarily, arrange to be able to hear the receiver audio signal which is being sent to the PK-232.

2. Set the squelch circuit on the radio for normal squelched operation. The DCD circuit in

the PK-232 is incapable of proper operation with unsquelched audio from the receiver.

3. While monitoring incoming packets, adjust the receiver audio level so that the tuning indicator "spreads" fully when receiving a packet from the station on the channel which produces the LEAST amount of audio output level. There are several limiters in the PK-232 demodulator so louder stations will not be affected adversely by this.

4. Once the audio level is properly set, adjust the DCD THRESHOLD control on the PK-232 so that the DCD led lights when there is a packet being transmitted by the station on channel which produces the LEAST amount of audio output from the receiver. Make sure, however, that the DCD LED is extinguished when there is no signal and the radio's squelch circuit has cut off all audio from the receiver.

If the above procedure is followed, the PK-232 will properly hold off transmitting during a packet transmission from another station and will not send acknowledgements to individual frames of a maxframe greater than 1 packet while it is still being transmitted.

We hope PK-232 owners will find this information useful and take steps to assure that their DCD is operating properly. Multiple access packet channel throughput is severely degraded

when DCD is not working.

73 and happy packeting,
Eric Gustafson - N7CL

Packet Radio Balloon Flight

Amateur Radio Balloon enthusiasts Bill Brown, WB8ELK and Phil Frazier, KA8TEF will be launching an amateur radio equipped balloon on Sunday, October 22nd, weather permitting at 8:30 AM EDT from Findlay, Ohio. The balloon will be carrying a 2 meter packet radio package. The planned frequency for the Pac-Comm Micro TNC-2 will be 144.99 MHz. When you attempt to connect to the balloon's TNC-2, use the call KA8TEF. The transmitter will be running about 1.5 watts unless an ATV package is also included. If an ATV package is included, the 2 meter output power will be reduced to 200 mW. For status on launch day, listen for the HF net beginning at 7:00 AM EDT and launch time, 8:30 P.M. EDT at 7155 or 7158 KHz. The Net Control Station for the Balloon Launch Net will be Rick, WA3USG. Anyone within a 400 mile radius of the balloon should receive its signals when the balloon reaches its peak altitude of nearly 9 miles.

via AMSAT

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Nord><Link Software "The Box 1.5"

Release 1.5 is now available with an English sysop-manual. (thanks to Don, DJOHC!) You never heard of TheBox? TheBox is a multiconnect mailbox software, made by NORD><LINK.

It features:

- 9-channel multiconnect
- speaks up to 6 different user-selectable languages
- up to 4 TNCs with up to eight channels on each TNC
- store & forward compatibility with WA7MBL and WORLI mailboxes
- Lifetime management for every message
- Channel monitoring on all mailbox channels
- Monitoring on all TNCs
- AMTOR usage (with some modified hardware)
- will run on any XT/AT/386
- you don't need a multitasking operating system
- takes about 350 Kbytes of memory
- Source code (Turbo-C 1.5) is available
- runs with TNC1 or TNC2 or mixed
- Password for remote users (new password after every login)
- selectable exclusive channels for store & forward and remote sysops
- completely configurable from remote
- comes with log analysis on the distribution disk

TheBox gives best performance with theFirmware on your TNC-2s, a WABDED host mode compatible software (made by DC4OX, NORD><LINK). The distribution disk contains one 4-channel and one 8-channel version of theFirmware for the TNC2. The TNC1 and TNC2 may also be used with the original WABDED host mode

Nearly 90% of the mailboxes in West-Germany and in other european countries are using TheBox as their mailbox system.

In the last few months a typical installation of TheBox achieved data transfer rates of more than 70 megabytes per month. More than 13000 connects by nearly 700 different stations were made that month. (The link was 1200 Baud, only one TNC was used).

If you want a copy of TheBox, please send one disk 360K/IBM and return postage to:

Reinhard Ruediger
DF3AV
Breite Strasse 20
D-3150 Peine
West-Germany

If you send two disks, you will also get the source code for TheBox. If you spend a 3rd disk, I'll send you the NORD><LINK terminal program TURBO-PACKET, made by DL1BHO. It features 4 split screens for 4 different channels and a separate monitor screen on your PC-AT, file send and receive routines and everything else a good terminal program should have. With it you may enter TheBox and TheNet nodes very simply as remote operator (if you have the password). TURBO-PACKET is written in TURBO-PASCAL 4.0 and comes with the source code.

73s de Reinhard - DF3AV

WEFAX - Weather Facsimile Frequencies

From the October 1988 issue of "Popular Communications", Page 70

Station	Frequencies
Frobisher, Canada	3235kHz, 7710kHz, 15644kHz
Halifax, Canada	4271kHz, 6330kHz, 10536kHz, 13510kHz
Boston, Massachusetts	3242.5kHz, 7530kHz
Boston, Massachusetts	3502kHz, 12750kHz
Norfolk, Virginia	3357kHz, 8080kHz, 10865kHz, 16410kHz, 20015kHz
Lewes, Delaware	4223kHz
Mobile, Alabama	6852kHz, 9157.5kHz, 11145kHz
Esquimalt, British Columbia	4268kHz, 6946kHz, 12125kHz
San Francisco, California	4346kHz, 8682kHz, 12730kHz, 17151.2kHz
La Jolla, California	8646.1kHz, 17410.6kHz
Honolulu, Hawaii	4855kHz, 8494kHz, 9369kHz, 14826kHz, 21837kHz
Honolulu, Hawaii	9982.5kHz, 11090kHz, 16135kHz, 23031.5kHz
Kodiak, Alaska	4298kHz, 8459kHz
Ted G. Kekatos (312) 979-0804	

Packet with a FI-727R

I recently purchased an MFJ-1278 TNC for use with my Yaesu FI-727R handie-talkie.

The MFJ-1278 manual gives the following method for connecting an Icom IC-02AT using a small (1:1) audio transformer:

```
TNC TX audio <----- : -----> TNC PTT
out      500 ohm ):( 500 ohm
              ):(
TNC Ground <---*--- : -----> HT Mic input
              *-----> HT Ground
              GND
```

The TNC RX audio and HT speaker are connected directly to each other.

While this technique should work, it presents a problem from a convenience standpoint, since you need a separate box or enclosure for the audio transformer and leads.

I called Yaesu tech support (213-404-4884) and got the following alternate hook-up info for the FI-727R which avoids the use of a transformer. This should work for most other Yaesu HT's and for many Icom HT's which use a similar mic/PTT set-up.

```
TNC:                                RADIO:
TX Audio ----)(----*----> Tip of small plug (mic)
out      .01-.1uF :      Ring: Not connected
              :
PTT -----:
              2.2K
RX Audio ----> Tip of large plug (speaker line)
Ground-----> Ring of large plug

cap can be anything in the range of .01-.1uF.
```

The resistor should be 1/4 - 1/2 watt. The cap and resistor can be wired up then covered with heat-shrink material for a neat appearance.

I've tried this on my set-up and it works great!

Dale - N4REE

Now something silly

Many, many years ago
when I was twenty-three,
I was married to a widow,
who was as pretty as could be.

This widow had a grown-up daughter
who had hair of red,
My father fell in love with her
and soon they too were wed.

This made my dad my son-in-law
and changed my very life.
For my daughter was my mother,
'cause she was my father's wife.

To complicate the matter,
even though it brought me joy,
I soon became the father,
of a bouncing baby boy.

My little baby then became
the brother-in-law to dad,
and so became my uncle,
though it made me very sad.

For if he was my uncle
then it also made him brother -
to the widow's grown up daughter,
who of course was my step-mother.

Father's wife then had a son
who kept him on the run
and he became my grandchild,
for he was my daughter's son.

My wife is now my mother's mother
and it makes me blue,
because although she is my wife,
she's my grandmother too.

If my wife is my grandmother
then I am her grandchild,
and everytime I think of it,
it nearly drives me wild.

For now I have become
the strangest case of all,
as husband of my grandmother,
I am my own grandpa!

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Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club



Harry Westlund, K9EHJ,
Secretary
720 Lincoln Avenue
Baraboo, WI 53913

The Oct. 11, 1988 meeting of the Y.T.A.R.C. was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

The minutes of the last meeting, as published in the B.S.S.S., were accepted as published, with one correction. Minutes should have included the acceptance of Dennis F. Sweeney as an associate member. Motion for acceptance given by Steve Schwoegler and seconded by Art Kleefisch.

James Decker, treasurer, gave the financial report as:

Operating balance: \$200.40.
Total balance: \$232.41.

The president then called for a round of introductions so the guests and new license class members could become acquainted.

The president then suggested we hold off any further business, and use the balance of the evening to get acquainted with the new class members and hold an informal discussion of Ham Radio.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Buck Nite drawing held and won by Harry Westlund to the tune of \$1.00 (ONE).

Respectfully submitted:

Harry Westlund, K9EHJ

ATTENDANCE

Harry Westlund	K9EHJ	Baraboo
Marge Reppenhagen		(Guest)
Fred W. Willke, Jr.		(Guest)
Dennis F. Sweeney		(Guest)
Dennis Sweeney, Jr.		(Guest)
Joseph Sweeney		(Guest)
Ken Johnson	K9DZG	Mazomanie
H. A. Reif	KA9YQP	Baraboo
Jim Decker	WB9UQT	Baraboo
Harry Mayland	K9FFT	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner		Sauk City
Duane Grotophorst	KA9HKL	Loganville
Steve Schwoegler	WB9RNL	Wisconsin Dells
Art Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo

The next meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday November 16, 1988, in room 25 of the Baraboo Civic Center.

YTARC BIRTHDAZE

Wm. Hommel	KA9QFT	November	4
Orv Warning	W9OXN	November	14
Gary Pratt	WB9ECO	November	17
James Taylor	WA9GJV	November	21

SENTENCE SERMONS

THANKSGIVING

Say "Thank You" to God as though you really mean it.

Remember God's bounty in the year, ...Give this one day to thanks, to joy, to gratitude.

--Henry Ward Beecher

The worst moment for an atheist is when he feels grateful, and has no one to thank.

--Samuel McCrea Cavert

ANOTHER HAM RECALLS

from St. Paul Radio Club's GROUNDWAVE

We recently finised an alignment of a modern(?) transceiver and it brough to mind my earlier home brew transmitter.

The connecting wiring was all busbars, nickel plated copper 1/8" square cross section sold at the time in small bundles of 12 pieces, 12" long. Boy did they solder easily, my iron at the time weighted about 5 lbs. and got it's heat from a blowtorch. Try using that on a dual gate FET the size of a fat gnat. I remember the tube as an UV202 with a little spike on top like a WW1 German helmet.

For power, we had a Thordarson xfmr about 250 watts at 500 volts secondary feeding into what we now call a 1/2 wave receifier, but it was 8 glass fruit jars (1 pint) filled with greenish blue copper sulphate; one electrode was lead, I've forgotten the other, but you could tell the negative side by the bubbles.

The antenna was a cage about 40' up, and the ground(?) was a counterpoise of 4 legs across the backyard coming together under the house side of the cage. My output frequency was about 195 to 205 meters and I had reports from knowledgeable hams as far away as 50 miles saying the cw sounded like a dog with diarrhea. Radio is different now.

--from Dick Hunt, KØMG

WNA - WSSN

(continued from page 4)

Slow Speed Net congratulates those officers; they are Greg, WA9W, Chairman; Art, KA9KLZ, Secretary; and Hale, W9CBE, Treasurer. The whistle of the Wisconsin Nevada and Alaska Railroad was tooting loudly throughout the entire election proceedings. I will let you figure out the significance of that statement.

In addition to the business meeting, there was the usual gladhanding of all those who hadn't seen each other for a long time and a few first-time handshakes. I had the pleasure of shaking the fists of Hale, W9CBE, and Art, KA9KLZ for the first time. The weather was perfect for a change. Many of the net regulars were there to enjoy the fellowship and to exchange war stories - the battles on the crowded bands. Plans are being made to hold the 1989 picnic at the same spot. Why don't you plan to join the group then?

The third quarter statistics for WSSN are: QNI 445, QSP 152, and QTR 1362. The WSSN Honor Roll for the third quarter has these leaders for top-five honors. W9NGP, Slim, with 64 QNI. Second place goes to K9BED, Ralph, with 53 checkins. N9FVN, Paul, picked up third place with 46 checkins. In fourth place was AG9G, Dwight, who I finally met after eight years of yacking on the nets. We live all of 50 miles apart. The fifth member of the honor roll is KA9FVX, Adrian. Thanks to all of you for your support.

That will do it until the frigid blasts of February blow across the pages of this journal.

73, Lee, N9BDL, Net Manager

Wisconsin Intrastate Net - Late (WIN/L)

Ed Rice, W9NGP, Net Manager

W126 Lang Road

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

The Late WIN is still very active, and we would like to hear from some of you traffic handlers who are CL before 2200 every nite.

Here are some totals for July, August and September: Most times 9RN representative is W9CBE, with 16. Most times QNI, with 67, is W9YCV, followed closely by K9BED, with 62.

QTC for the quarter is 189, QSP for the quarter is 125, and percent traffic cleared is 66%.

73, Ed, W9NGP

It happens every time -- The chap who is scared stiff that he will be called upon to say a few words at the radio club ends up being annoyed that he isn't asked.

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